

Frequently Asked Questions

(Per 9.424)

Contributions/IRS – The Camp*aign for American Kids is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 non-profit organization; all contributions are tax-deductible.

Contributions/options – The Camp*aign is qualified to receive gifts of any kind, including **bequests and life-income gifts**, such as the **charitable gift annuity**. We welcome foundation support as well as corporate sponsorship. For more information please contact Camp*aign headquarters at, (804) 266-7130 or, HQ@ForAmericanKids.org. The work of the Camp*aign *depends entirely* on the support of concerned donors.

Ecumenical/definition – The word *ecumenical* comes from the Greek word meaning “household,” and refers to the heart-felt desire of some religious groups to cooperate with one another, *as is if they were one household*. Thus, ecumenical religious groups tend to be tolerant of differences, inclusive of others, and above all, non-extremist. In a sense, ecumenical is the opposite of extremist. The Camp*aign believes that extremism of any kind is, at best, counterproductive and, with respect to children, is more likely than not to be damaging.

Joey/definition – *Joey* refers to Joint Outdoor-Ecumenical Youth programs. *Joey* is the term used by the Camp*aign to clearly differentiate between youth programs that include a Faith aspect for the *benefit of children*, and those that tend to impose religious beliefs upon children, often through guilt and fear.

Joey/affiliations – Roughly 2,400 outdoor youth camps in the US have met the stringent requirements necessary to achieve American Camp Association (ACA) accreditation. Of these, The Camp*aign elected *initially* to affiliate with approximately 100, or two per state. The sole reason for this concerns issues of manageability and ecumenical diversity. In the future we hope to have the capacity to be of service to all outdoor youth programs that are both ecumenical and ACA accredited.

✓ **Joey/affiliates** – **NOTE: We are currently in process** of listing specific information about JOEY affiliates here at The Camp*aign website. This will enable loved ones to contact JOEYs directly. However, individuals are still encouraged to use the free services of The Camp*aign for information on: nearest JOEY locations, camp*ership assistance, program offerings, special needs and so forth. **It is not necessary** for parents go through The Camp*aign. **It is very important**, however, *that every parent give their child the life-enhancing benefits of a JOEY!*

Program/components – There are three distinct program ministries of The Camp*aign for American Kids: 1) Education & Outreach, 2) Information & Referral, and 3) Camp*ership Assistance.

Program/Education & Outreach – The most important program ministry of The Camp*aign is Education & Outreach. This is in keeping with our goal to double the number of children in Joey programs throughout the U.S. within ten years. The primary reason that parents fail to provide their children with the benefits of a Joey program is *lack of awareness*. The Camp*aign works around the clock to boost public awareness about the critical link between those who attend Joey programs and children who are stable, balanced and well-adjusted.

Program/Information & Referral – The Camp*aign maintains an up-to-date information data base on matters pertaining to the ongoing *Crisis of American Youth*. Relevant findings from the scientific and Faith communities are gathered, interpreted and distributed on a regular basis. The Camp*aign is often called upon to provide information to the public about the *precise nature* of the challenges facing today’s youngsters ... as well as the key factors contributing to the success of the Joey-based solution.

Program/Camp*ership Assistance, 1/3 – When an individual contacts Camp*aign headquarters for assistance in locating a Joey program, The Camp*aign refers to its list of affiliates and selects three Joeyes within a three-hour drive of the home. HQ then contacts each Joey to ascertain compatibility (vacancy, program components, costs, age limits, flexibility, financial aid).

Program/Camp*ership Assistance, 2/3 – Camp*aign HQ advocates on behalf of family members with Joey staff. HQ provides required information about the family and child(ren), gathers information ad hoc, and discerns the degree of “fit” based on key factors, including length of program, and potential to accommodate all children of one family simultaneously. HQ then provides the family with details and options needed for the child to pick “my very own JOEY.”

Program/Camp*ership Assistance, 3/3 – Camp*aign HQ discusses the potential for financial aid with Joey staff. The availability of aid varies from year to year. A typical financial assistance package includes direct aid from a Joey’s sponsoring communion, as well as from the Joey itself. The Camp*aign will contribute to the aid package in order to reduce the burden on the Joey and its communion, and to make funds available for other children. HQ will also ask parents to contribute a portion, if possible, for the sake of ownership. Where no financial aid is available, The Camp*aign may assume the entire responsibility.

You can help by *making a contribution today*.

As you do, please consider that, ultimately,
*no work of charity is more important than prohibiting a lifetime of tragedy
from ravaging the heart of a little one.*

The Camp*aign for American Kids: *a little change ... for a WHOLE life!*

To help update this page, please send your questions to: HQ@ForAmericanKids.org.